

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LA PAZ 04321 032225Z
ACTION SNM-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 DHA-02 DEAE-00 TRSE-00 AID-05
AGRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 JUSE-00 NSC-05 L-03
PRS-01 IGA-02 EB-07 /045 W
-----040721Z 062542 /14

R 032148Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5631

UNCLAS LA PAZ 4321

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR, CASC, BL
SUBJECT: BOLIVIAN VISIT, MS. FALCO, S/NM

REF: (A) LA PAZ 3798, (B) LA PAZ 4080

1. MS. FALCO VISITED BOLIVIAN MAY 25-29 ON FAMILIARIZATION TRIP TO REVIEW USG AND GOB DRUG CONTROL AND COCA CROP SUBSTITUTION ACTIVITIES AND INVESTIGATE U.S. PRISONER SITUATION. SHE WAS ACCCOMPANIED ON THIS VISIT TO BOLIVIA BY S/NM STAFF ASSISTANT MARTIN CHESSES.

2. FOLLOWING MISSION BRIEFINGS ON MORNING OF MAY 25, MS. FALCO HAD PRIVATE MEETING WITH MINISTER OF INTERIOR AND JUSTICE, AND VISITED WOMEN'S AND MEN'S JAILS IN LA PAZ AS WELL AT NATIONAL CENTER FOR DRUG ADDICTION REHABILITATION.

3. FIELD VISITS WERE MADE TO THE YUNGAS AREA ON MAY 26-27 AND TO THE CHAPARE COCHABAMBA AREA ON MAY 28-29. IN ADDITION TO RELATED MISSION STAFF, MS. FALCO WAS ACCCOMPANIED BY BOTH COL. OVIDIO APARICIO, DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL DIRECTORATE FOR CONTROL OF DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES (DNCSP) AND UNCLASSIFIED

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WINSTON ESTREMADOIRO, DIRECTOR OF THE NEWLY CREATED GOB IMPLEMENTATION UNIT FOR COCA CROP SUBSTITUTION, ON THE YUNGAS TRIP; ONLY ESTREMADOIRO ACCOMPANIED THE TEAM ON THE CHAPARE/COCHABAMBA TRIP.

4. THE YUNGAS VISIT COINCIDED WITH COMPLETION OF THE FIRST WEEK OF REGISTRATION ACTIVITIES BY THE

DNCSP FOR COCA PRODUCERS IN THAT AREA; A REVIEW OF THESE ACTIVITIES WAS PROVIDED TO THE TEAM BY THE REGIONAL DNCSP DIRECTOR AND A LOCAL REGISTRATION OFFICE VISITED (CORSICO). THE LOCAL MINAG RESEARCH STATION (SAN PEDRO), WAS VISITED AND CONTRACTS EFFECTED WITH LOCAL EXTENSION PERSONNEL AND FARMERS.

5. THE CHAPARE AREA WAS VISITED ON THE AFTERNOON OF MAY 28 FOR AN OVERVIEW OF THE SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT PRODUCTION CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH COCA IS PRODUCED IN THIS AREA AS CONTRASTED TO THE YUNGAS. ON THE MORNING OF MAY 29 VISITS WERE MADE TO THE U.S. PRISONERS AT THE WOMEN'S AND MEN'S JAILS OF COCHABAMBA.

6. FOLLOWING RETURN FROM COCHABAMBA AT NOON MAY 29 MS. FALCO DEPARTED LA PAZ ENROUTE TO U.S. AT APPROXIMATELY 2250 THAT EVENING.

7. IT IS EMBASSY'S IMPRESSION THAT VISIT WAS USEFUL TO MS. FALCO BOTH IN TERMS OF FIRST HAND ACQUAINTANCE WITH THE NARCOTICS SITUATION HERE AND U.S. RELATED PROGRAMS AS WELL AS DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO U.S. PRISONERS HELD ON NARCOTICS CHARGES.

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